

**MINUTES of the meeting (Annual Meeting) of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on 21st May 2012 at the Old School Hall, School Lane, Harpole at 7.45 pm.**

**PRESENT:**

Mr D Ballard	Mr E Church	Mr J Calderwood	Miss S Eason
Mr J H Eason	Mr B Gibbins	Mr J L Green	Mrs J Jenkinson
Mr B Justice	Mrs S Roberts	Mr D S Starmer	Mrs R Gibbins
		5 members of public	Clerk, Mr G Ravine

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed and seconded that Mr Ballard be nominated for the post of chairman for 2012/13. Unanimous. Carried. Mr Ballard took the chair and signed the declaration of office.

**2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.** It was proposed and seconded that Miss Eason be nominated for the post of vice chairman for 2012/13. Unanimous. Carried.

**3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr J Kirkbride (NCC) Cllrs Eliot and Addison.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** EC, RG declared a personal interest regarding the Old School Hall; JC as Trustee of the Charity. DB JC SR regarding the Harpole Action Team. DS regarding the allotments and SHLAA. OSH and PFA. JG as a land owner. DS and EC regarding the conservation area.

**5. TO APPOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS****Advisory Groups**

<b>Allotments</b>	J Eason J Green B Gibbins D Ballard
<b>Churchyard</b>	J Calderwood J Green D Starmer D Ballard
<b>Finance Committee</b>	J Calderwood E Church D Starmer R Gibbins D Ballard B Gibbins
<b>Footpaths</b>	S Eason J Green B Gibbins
<b>Lighting</b>	D Starmer
<b>Planning Committee</b>	S Eason (Chair) J Calderwood E Church D Ballard J Jenkinson S Roberts J Eason

*\* Resolved that these appointments be made.*

**6. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO SIT ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

<b>Old School Hall Management Committee</b>	S Eason E Church D Starmer R Gibbins B Gibbins J Jenkinson D Ballard
<b>Youth Club</b>	(J Calderwood is a trustee) D Ballard, E Church
<b>Old Peoples Welfare</b>	R Gibbins B Justice
<b>Playing Fields</b>	J Green D Starmer . (J Calderwood is a trustee)
<b>School Governors</b>	S Eason
<b>Free School Charity</b>	M Burt. (J Calderwood is a trustee)
<b>Harpole Charity</b>	J Calderwood P. Judge, Mr R Starmer M Burt (Clerk)
<b>Road Safety Officer</b>	J Eason
<b>Field Footpath Warden</b>	B Gibbins
<b>Bus Services Liaison</b>	Mrs J Tilley
<b>Tree Warden</b>	B Gibbins
<b>Scarecrow Committee</b>	S Eason J Jenkinson E Church

*\* Resolved that these appointments be made.*

**7. To confirm the Clerk's appointment as Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer**

*\* Resolved* Clerk's appointment as Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer be confirmed.

## **8. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S INSURANCES**

Last year Council resolved that their insurance should remain linked with the Old School Hall. The Internal Auditor expressed concerns about this arrangement.

\* **Resolved** Council to seek quotes for its own insurance, separated from the Old School Hall. Decision to be delegated to the Finance Committee.

## **9. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Jen Harrison the CPSO for our village gave a report on Police matters relating to the village. PC Graham Suppiah was in attendance. She reported that PC James Harvey has replaced Steve Horner and that most crime categories had fallen in number in the past year, including Anti-Social behaviour. She hopes to get to use a speed camera in the village, but only Sandy Lane is considered suitable at present. Police are aware of Anti-Social behaviour and carry out Friday night patrols, and liaise with the School, Pubs and Neighbourhood Watch. South Northants Police has a presence on the internet, and on Twitter.

JC expressed disquiet about the 30 minute wait for police response to a major robbery today, feeling that it had damaged public confidence in the Police. JH said that this would be looked into.

It was reported that an accident may have damaged the hedge at the junction of Sandy Lane and Larkhall Lane. John Gibbins thanked the chair for information regarding the Scarecrow weekend, but was disappointed it had taken so long. He expressed concern about the quality of the grass cutting.

South View residents felt that the grasscutting was of poor quality and strimming should be carried out around trees and bollards. Clerk to inform Mr Warden.

## **10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

\* **Resolved** Minutes of the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011 were approved with one minor change - and duly signed by the Chairman.

## **11. Co-option of a Councillor.**

Mrs Burt's resignation letter was read out. BG felt that she was a great loss to the Council, and all agreed. A casual vacancy notice would be displayed and SNC informed.

## **12. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Scarecrow accounts had now been finalised.

Rats. SNC had replied that NCC were responsible and were aware.

Bus Shelter. Problems were ongoing. There were suggestions that the seat be removed, or that very strong disinfectant was used as a deterrent. The Friday night problems continued and residents had written to the Chief Constable. Clerk asked to write too and send a copy to the Baptist Church Youth Club.

Jubilee Oak has now been purchased.

Bus Shelter in South View repaired.

Churchyard – neighbour has completed wall repairs.

## **13. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**Allotments.** DB reported drainage failures on new allotments.

**Churchyard.** The grass has been cut, but is rather messy, older graves have not been strimmed. Three quotes had been received for the removal of the spoil heap, and the building of a retaining wall. It was stressed that the contractor must liaise with the farm before beginning.

\* **Resolved** Mr Manning's quotation of £2810 for both works was accepted.

**Footpaths** Potholes between 10 and 16 Garners way. Steps on footpath to Harpole

cover need clearing. During rains water from between Carr House and Azalea Lodge (53 High St) has been threatening to damage road surface. Vegetation on A45 central reservation kerbs at Harpole turn desperately needs cutting back.

**Finance.** Annual return date July 20<sup>th</sup>. Meeting tbc to discuss insurance and investment situation.

**Lighting.** Light near turnpike had come on in daylight again. Clerk to ask EON to switch off.

Clerk

**South View.** During rains surface water had accumulated on the area in front of the bus shelter caused by a ridge. Clerk to report.

Clerk

#### 14. REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE

S/2012/0262/FUL	18, Garners Way, Harpole	Single Storey Rear Extension	Approved
S/2012/0346/FUL	9, Hall Close, Harpole	Single Storey Rear Extension	Approved
S/2012/0553/FUL	48 Manor Close Harpole	Single storey side and rear extension forming enlarged kitchen and dining room.	Pending
S/2012/0547/FUL	14 High Street Harpole	Two and single storey rear extension	Pending
S/2012/0549/FUL	24 Glassthorpe Lane Harpole	Installation of an external platform lift and metal ramp	Pending
S/2012/0482/AGD	The Closes Glassthorpe Lane Harpole	Agricultural livestock building	Information only
S/2012/0438/LDE	Land to rear of Hall Close Harpole	Certificate of existing lawfulness for retention of static caravan	Although planning application on 23/4/ 2009, gave permission for equestrian building, one of the conditions was caravan to be removed. However because SNC have not pursued this; caravan has remained on this site for more than 10 years, so does this now legalise this application? Residents upset condition not enforced. Is static caravan to be used as feed store as per original use?

\* **Resolved** Council endorsed the decision of the Planning Committee.

**15. Accounts.** The Internal Auditor had made a number of recommendations, which had either already been attended to, or were under consideration.

The Accounts had already been accepted, and had been checked and accepted by the internal auditor.

\* **Resolved.** Council accepted the Annual Return

- The chair and clerk duly signed section 1 of the Annual Return.

**Annual Governance Statement.** Section 2 of the Annual return was read out by the Clerk, and all sections answered in the affirmative

\* **Resolved.** Council accepted Section 2 of the Annual Return

The chair and clerk duly signed section 2 of the Annual Return.

**16. Neighbourhood Plan.** SR reported on the open days which were a success, and on the proposed boundaries for the Neighbourhood Plan. The Harpole Action Team to formally apply to SNC in order to proceed with their plan, and need Council's agreement to proceed.

\* **Resolved.** Council accepted the proposed plan and agreed that HAT should proceed.

**17. Public Discussion.** It was suggested that this might be put back to the end of the meeting.

**18. Annual Parish Meeting.** Minutes not complete, some reports not in clerk's possession. There was discussion as to the purpose of and content of this meeting which was a legal requirement. It was felt that reports should be kept shorter, or the meeting would need extending.

**19. Harpole Charities.**

\* **Resolved** Mrs M Burt appointed as new clerk.

**20. Clerks Appraisal** to be arranged with DB.

**21. Website** 70% of intended content now online. Clerk to liaise with JJ re Parish Council content.

**22. SNVB.** No reports.

**23. Conservation Area.** JC read out a letter asking that land as well as buildings be included in the proposed area.

**\* Resolved** Letter to be sent in full.

**24. Village Walk.** To be June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm meeting at the allotments.

## **25. CORRESPONDENCE**

M. Burt – resignation. – noted  
 M Chappell/Merry – re dog walking. Subject would be added to next agenda. However most Councillors felt renting or purchasing this land would be inappropriate as two large Country parks would be opened in the immediate vicinity of Harpole.  
 I Gardner – re South View - noted  
 F Manning – quotation -noted  
 Harpole Bowls Club - noted  
 HMRC – tax information. - noted  
**SNC**– re Rats in layby –acknowledgement - noted  
 OSHMC – re meetings. - noted  
 SNH – recent works. - noted

SNC – South Northants Council NCC– Northamptonshire County Council OSHMC – Old School Hall Management Committee EMRA – East Midlands Regional Assembly. NALC – Northants County Association of Local Councils. CLASP – Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project. WNJPU – West Northants Joint Planning Unit. NRHA. Northamptonshire Rural Housing Association. SNH South Northants Homes.

## **26. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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G. Ravine - salary	Ch 840	£466.02	LGA 1972 s 112
Inland revenue	Ch 841	£116.50	LGA 1972 s 112
R Howey- Bus shelter	Ch 842	£20.00	LG(MP)A 1953 s4
P Warden - grasscutting	Ch 843	£541.20	LG(MP)A 1953 s4
Old School Hall – 1/2 year grant	Ch 844	£1000.00	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
Playing Field – ½ year grant.	Ch 845	£1000.00	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
Harpole Heritage	Ch 846	£500.00	LGA 1972 s 137
AH Contracts- Dog bins	Ch 847	£60.00	Clean Neighborhoods and Environment Act 2005
Income. SNC Precept £19,000 Bowls club. Rent £125. Water £536.85			

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £79510.78. 16/5/2012

**\*Resolved\*** -That these payments be approved.

**27. Items for the next Agenda.** Dog Walking.

## **28. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012 7.30 pm.

*The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.52 pm.*